REMARKS

Claims 1 to 4 and 7 to 29 are pending, of which claims 1, 12, 14 and 26 are independent. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, independent claims 1 and 26 were rejected over U.S. Patent No. 6,274,937 (Ahn) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,628,178 (Uchikoba) and newly-cited U.S. Patent No. 6,091,310 (Utsumi). The rejections of the dependent claims are similar to the prior rejections, and include rejections over previously-cited Chakravorty, Li, Asahi, Figueroa, Liu, Daniels, and Juskey. As shown above, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 26 to clarify that the integrated impedance converter is configured to transform an impedance of a chip component by at least 5%. Applicant has amended claims 12 and 14 to incorporate this clarification and to stand as independent claims. In view of these amendments, withdrawal of the art rejections is respectfully requested.

In this regard, the Office Action, on page 2, cites Ahn in Figure 1 as having an integrated impedance converter [106, 110] comprising at least one inductor [106] and at least one capacitor [110]. In particular, the Office Action alleges that inductor [106] and capacitor [110] corresponds to the claim's integrated impedance converter. We disagree. As we understand it, the inductor and capacitor [106, 110] are used to filter out noise and to nullify parasitic capacitances. Ahn explains, "RF amplifiers supply gain using inductor-capacitor resonance to nullify device and parasitic capacitance at the center frequency. Such devices also form a secondary filter for noise and out-of-band signals" (column 2, lines 10-14). The inductor merely adapts non-matching impedances. As we understand it, the inductor in Ahn does not transform the impedance of a chip component by at least 5%.

Uchikoba is cited in the Office Action for disclosing a surface acoustic wave (SAW) resonator mounted on a substrate 40. Uchikoba is not understood to remedy the foregoing deficiency of Ahn, namely an integrated impedance converter configured to transform an impedance of a chip component by at least 5%.

Utsumi discloses an inductive component that is electrically connected in series between the first external contacts and the second external contacts. The Office Action, on page 4, cites Utsumi as teaching the benefit of this configuration as increasing "the high frequency impedance without increase in direct current resistance to the circuit whereby the high frequency noises are prevented from reaching the power source circuit layer." The Office Action admits the inductor in Utsumi is "for the purpose of preventing high frequency noises from propagating within the device." Utsumi, therefore, is not understood to remedy the foregoing deficiency of Ahn, namely an integrated impedance converter that is configured to transform an impedance of a chip component by at least 5%. Accordingly, Ahn in view of Uchikoba and Utsumi could not disclose or suggest the features claimed.

The remaining art is likewise not understood to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of the claims. Accordingly, claims 1, 12, 14, and 26 are believed to be patentable.

Each of the dependent claims is believed to define patentable features of the invention. Each dependent claim partakes of the novelty of its corresponding independent claim, in light of the foregoing amendments, and, as such, has not been discussed specifically herein.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above

may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Please charge any additional fees, not already covered by check, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 14219-075US1.

Applicant's attorney can be reached at the address shown above. Telephone calls regarding this application should be directed to 617-521-7896.

Respectfully submitted,

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